



Practitioner's Docket No. 4020-005

PATENT**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Patent application

of _____ Inventor(s)
for _____ Title of invention**OR**

In re application of: Duty

Application No.: 010 / 635,121 Group Art Unit:
Filed: August 6, 2003 Examiner:
For: TOTE BAG WITH A SINGLE STRAP AND POCKETSCommissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450**TRANSMITTAL OF INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
WITHIN THREE MONTHS OF FILING OR
BEFORE MAILING OF FIRST OFFICE ACTION (37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b))****CERTIFICATION UNDER 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.8(a) and 1.10***(When using Express Mail, the Express Mail label number is **mandatory**;
Express Mail certification is **optional**.)

I hereby certify that, on the date shown below, this correspondence is being:

MAILING deposited with the United States Postal Service in an envelope addressed to Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450**37 C.F.R. § 1.8(a)** with sufficient postage as first class mail.**37 C.F.R. § 1.10 *** as "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee"

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TRANSMISSION facsimile transmitted to the Patent and Trademark Office, (703) _____

Signature

Date: August 20, 2003Rhonda L. Sanders

(type or print name of person certifying)

* Only the date of filing (§ 1.6) will be the date used in a patent term adjustment calculation, although the date on any certificate of mailing or transmission under § 1.8 continues to be taken into account in determining timeliness. See § 1.703(f). Consider "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" (§ 1.10) or facsimile transmission (§ 1.6(d)) for the reply to be accorded the earliest possible filing date for patent term adjustment calculations.

(Transmittal of Information Disclosure Statement Within Three Months of Filing or Before Mailing of First Office Action [6-3]—page 1 of 3)

NOTE: 37 C.F.R. 1.98(b):

- (1) Each U.S. patent listed in an information disclosure statement must be identified by inventor, patent number, and issue date.
- (2) Each U.S. patent application publication listed in an information disclosure statement shall be identified by applicant, patent application publication number, and publication date.
- (3) Each U.S. application listed in an information disclosure statement must be identified by the inventor, application number, and filing date.
- (4) Each foreign patent or published foreign patent application listed in an information disclosure statement must be identified by the country or patent office which issued the patent or published the application, an appropriate document number, and the publication date indicated on the patent or published application.
- (5) Each publication listed in an information disclosure statement must be identified by publisher, author (if any), title, relevant pages of the publication, date, and place of publication.

WARNING: No extension of time can be had under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136 (a) or (b) for filing an IDS. 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(f).

NOTE: The "filing date of a national application" under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b) has two possible meanings. Where the filing is a direct one to the United States Patent & Trademark Office, the filing is defined in 37 C.F.R. § 1.53(b) as "the date on which: (1) A specification containing a description pursuant to § 1.71 and at least one claim pursuant to § 1.75; and (2) any drawing required by § 1.81(a), are filed in the Patent and Trademark Office in the name of the actual inventor or inventors as required by § 1.41." 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)(1). On the other hand, an international application that enters the national stage occurs when the applicant has filed the documents and fees required by 35 U.S.C. § 371(c) within the periods set forth in § 1.494 or § 1.495. 35 U.S.C. § 371(c) requires the filing of the following: (1) the basic national fee; (2) a copy of the international application, unless already sent by the International Bureau, and optionally an English translation if filed in another language; and, also optionally (3) amendments under PCT Article 19, with a translation into English if made in another language; (4) an oath or declaration; and (5) a translation into English of any annexes to the International preliminary examination report, if such annexes were made in another language. The optional items must be submitted later, with surcharges. 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)(2).

IDENTIFICATION OF TIME OF FILING THE ACCOMPANYING INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

The information disclosure statement submitted herewith is being filed within three months of the filing date of the application or date of entry into the national stage of an international application or before the mailing date of a first Office action on the merits, whichever event occurs last. 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b).

NOTE: "No certification or fee is due when the filing is made within the above time period. It is advisable to ensure that no Office action has been mailed if the disclosure statement is delayed until after three months from filing."

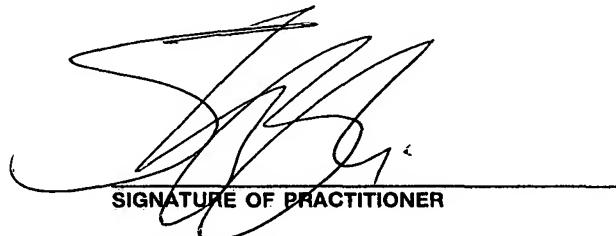
NOTE: "An information disclosure statement will be considered to have been filed on the day it was received in the Office, or on an earlier date of a mailing if accompanied by a properly executed certificate of mailing under 37 C.F.R. 1.8, or Express Mail certificate under 37 C.F.R. 1.10. An Office action is mailed on the date indicated in the Office action." Notice of April 20, 1992 (1138 O.G. 37-41, 39). See also § 609, M.P.E.P., 8th Edition.

NOTE: "The term 'national application' includes continuing applications (continuations, divisions, continuations-in-part) so three-months will be measured from the actual filing date of an application as opposed [sic] to the effective date of a continuing application." Notice of April 20, 1992 (1138 O.G. 37-41, 39).

(Transmittal of Information Disclosure Statement Within Three Months of Filing or Before Mailing of First Office Action [6-3]—page 2 of 3)

NOTE: "An action on the merits means an action which treats the patentability of the claims in an application, as opposed to only formal or procedural requirements. An action on the merits would, for example, contain a rejection or indication of allowability of a claim or claims rather than just a restriction requirements (37 C.F.R. 1.142) or just a requirement for additional fees to have a claim considered (37 C.F.R. 1.16(d)). Thus, if an application was filed on Jan. 1 and the first Office action on the merits was not mailed until six months later on July 1, the examiner would be required to consider any proper information disclosure statement filed prior to July 1." Notice of April 20, 1992 (1138 O.G. 37-41, 39).

WARNING: "A petition for suspension of action to allow applicant time to submit an information disclosure statement will be denied as failing to present good and sufficient reasons, since 37 C.F.R. § 1.97 provides adequate recourse for the timely submission of prior art for consideration by the examiner." Notice of July 6, 1992 (1141 O.G. 63). But see § 103(b) and (c), limited suspension of action in a continued prosecution application (CPA) filed under § 1.53(d) and in a request for continued examination (RCE) under § 1.114.



SIGNATURE OF PRACTITIONER

Reg. No.: 28,688

Tel. No.: (615) 662-0100

Customer No.: 1400

Stephen T. Belsheim

(type or print name of practitioner)

179 Belle Forrest Cr. Ste. 102
P.O. Address

Nashville, Tennessee 37221

(Transmittal of Information Disclosure Statement Within Three Months of Filing or Before Mailing of First Office Action [6-3]—page 3 of 3)



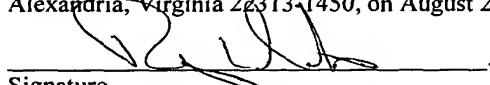
4020-005
Patent

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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with first class postage affixed, in an envelope addressed to Assistant Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450, on August 20, 2003.

Signature


Rhonda L. Sanders

Date: August 20, 2003

Type or Print Name of Person Certifying

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

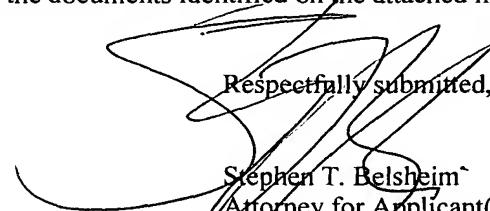
In the application of: Duty)	Group Art Unit:
Serial No.10/635,121)	
Filed: August 6, 2003)	
For: TOTE BAG WITH A SINGLE)	Examiner:
STRAP AND POCKETS)	
)	

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
Alexandria, Virginia 22313

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

In accordance with the provisions of 37 C.F.R. 1.56 and 37 C.F.R. 1.97-1.99, it is requested that the references listed on the attached Form PTO-1449 be made of record in the above identified application. Copies of the references are submitted herewith. If some of the documents have markings thereon, applicants do not intend to attach any significance to such markings.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed within three months of the filing date of this patent application and hence, must be considered by the Patent Examiner. However, if any fees are necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge fees necessary to enter this paper and obtain consideration of the documents identified on the attached listing to Deposit Account No. 02-2267.


Respectfully submitted,

Stephen T. Belsheim
Attorney for Applicant(s)
Registration No. 28,688
Telephone: 615-662-0100
Facsimile: 615-662-0352

179 Belle Forrest Cir
Suite 102
Nashville, Tennessee 37221



AUG 22 2003

PTO/SB/08A (08-03)

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Substitute for form 1449/PTO		Complete if Known	
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT <i>(Use as many sheets as necessary)</i>		Application Number	10/635,121
Sheet	1	Filing Date	August 6, 2003
	of 1	First Named Inventor	Carolyn I. Duty
		Art Unit	
		Examiner Name	
		Attorney Docket Number	4020-005

U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Document Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number-Kind Code ² (if known)			
		US- 584,870	06/22/1897	Giugliano	
		US- 954,840	04/12/1910	Wiedemann	
		US- 1,606,107	10/10/1922	Simms	
		US- 1,636,838	07/26/1927	Roser	
		US- 1,729,318	07/20/1927	Wunderlich	
		US- 4,170,282	10/09/1979	Schwartzstein	
		US- 4,206,835	06/10/1980	Shapiro	
		US- 4,436,189	03/13/1984	Baum	
		US- 4,854,431	08/08/1989	Pulichino, Jr et al	
		US- 5,044,699	09/03/1991	Duty	
		US- 5,046,860	09/10/1991	Brennan	
		US- 5,938,336	08/17/1999	King	
		US- 6,206,224	03/27/2001	Potts et al.	
		US-			

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages Or Relevant Figures Appear
		Country Code ³ Number ⁴ Kind Code ⁵ (if known)			T ⁶

Examiner Signature	Date Considered
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*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. ¹Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ²See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. ⁶Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 (1-800-786-9199) and select option 2.